

## REPORT

ON

## NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 3rd November 1888.

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		Nil.	
		<b>ASSAM PAPERS.</b>	
		Nil.	



## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
<b>BENGALI.</b>				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Kasipore Nibási" ... ..	Kasipore, Burrisal ...	.....	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
2	"Ahammadi" ... ..	Tangail, Mymensingh.	.....	
3	"Ave Maria" ... ..	Calcutta	.....	
4	"Chandra Vilásh" ... ..	Berhampore	.....	
5	"Divákar" ... ..	Calcutta	.....	
6	"Gaura Duta" ... ..	Maldah	.....	
7	"Grambási" ... ..	Uluberia	.....	
8	"Púrva Bangabási" ... ..	Noakhally	.....	
9	"Púrva Darpan" ... ..	Chittagong	700	
10	"Uttara Banga Hitaishi" ... ..	Mahiganj, Rungpore...	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
11	"Apurva Punchayat" ... ..	Calcutta	.....	
12	"Arya Darpan" ... ..	Ditto	102	19th October 1888.
13	"Bangabási" ... ..	Ditto	20,000	27th ditto.
14	"Burdwán Sanjivani" ... ..	Burdwan	302	
15	"Cháruvartá" ... ..	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	
16	"Chattal Gazette" ... ..	Chittagong	.....	
17	"Dacca Prakásh" ... ..	Dacca	450	
18	"Dhumaketu" ... ..	Chandernagore	.....	
19	"Education Gazette" ... ..	Hooghly	825	26th ditto.
20	"Garib" ... ..	Dacca	.....	
21	"Hindu Ranjiká" ... ..	Beaulah, Rajshahye...	200	
22	"Jagatbási" ... ..	Calcutta	.....	
23	"Murshidábád Patriká" ... ..	Berhampore	508	26th ditto.
24	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi" ... ..	Ditto	.....	29th ditto.
25	"Navavibhákár Sádharáni" ... ..	Calcutta	1,000	26th ditto.
26	"Prájá Bandhu" ... ..	Chandernagore	995	
27	"Pratikár" ... ..	Berhampore	600	
28	"Rungpore Dik Prakásh" ... ..	Kakiniá, Rungpore	205	
29	"Sahachar" ... ..	Calcutta	500	
30	"Samaya" ... ..	Ditto	2,350	
31	"Sanjivani" ... ..	Ditto	4,000	
32	"Sansodhini" ... ..	Chittagong	800	
33	"Santi" ... ..	Calcutta	.....	
34	"Saráswat Patra" ... ..	Dacca	400	29th ditto.
35	"Som Prakásh" ... ..	Calcutta	1,000	
36	"Srimanta Saudagár" ... ..	Ditto	.....	
37	"Sulabha Samáchar and Kusadaha" ... ..	Ditto	3,000	
38	"Surabhi and Patáká" ... ..	Ditto	700	
<i>Daily.</i>				
39	"Dainik and Samachár Chandriká" ... ..	Calcutta	7,000	31st October and 18th Nov. 1888.
40	"Samvád Prabhákar" ... ..	Ditto	200	29th to 31st October and 1st Nov. 1888.
41	"Samvád Punachandrodaya" ... ..	Ditto	300	27th to 31st October and 1st Nov. 1888.
42	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká" ... ..	Ditto	500	
<b>ENGLISH AND BENGALI.</b>				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
43	"Dacca Gazette" ... ..	Dacca	.....	
<b>HINDI.</b>				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
44	"Darjeeling Mission ke Másik Samachár Patriká." ... ..	Darjeeling	.....	
45	"Kshatriya Pratiká" ... ..	Patna	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
46	"Aryávarta" ... ..	Calcutta	.....	6th October 1888.
47	"Behar Bandhu" ... ..	Bankipore	.....	
48	"Bhárat Mitra" ... ..	Calcutta	1,500	25th ditto.
49	"Sár Sudhánidhi" ... ..	Ditto	500	
50	"Uchit Baktá" ... ..	Ditto	4,500	
51	"Hindi Samáchar" ... ..	Bhagulpore	1,000	

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
	<b>PERSIAN.</b>			
	<i>Weekly.</i>			
52	"Jám-Jahán-numá" ... ..	Calcutta ...	250	5th and 26th October 1898.
	<b>URDU.</b>			
	<i>Weekly.</i>			
53	"Aftal Alum Arrah" ... ..	Arrah ...	.....	
54	"Anis" ... ..	Patna ...	.....	
55	"Gauhur" ... ..	Calcutta ...	196	
56	"Sharaf-ul-Akbar" ... ..	Behar ...	160	
57	"Al Punch" ... ..	Bankipore ...	.....	8th October 1888.
	<i>Bi-weekly.</i>			
58	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat" ... ..	Calcutta ...	340	20th ditto.
	<i>Daily.</i>			
59	"Urdu Guide" ... ..	Calcutta ...	212	15th to 31st October 1888.
	<b>URIYA.</b>			
	<i>Monthly.</i>			
60	"Taraka and Subhavartá" ... ..	Cuttack ...	.....	
61	"Pradíp" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	
62	"Samyabadi" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	
	<i>Weekly.</i>			
63	"Utkal Dípiká" ... ..	Cuttack ...	200	
64	"Balasore Samvad Váhika" ... ..	Balasore ...	205	
65	"Uriya and Navasamvád" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	
	<b>PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.</b>			
	<b>BENGALI.</b>			
	<i>Fortnightly.</i>			
66	"Silchar" ... ..	Silchar ...	.....	
	<i>Weekly.</i>			
67	"Paridarshak" ... ..	Silchar ...	450	



1891-1892

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
1891	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	540
1892	12	18	22	28	32	38	42	48	52	58	62	68	560

1893-1894

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
1893	14	20	24	30	34	40	44	50	54	60	64	70	580
1894	16	22	26	32	36	42	46	52	56	62	66	72	600

1895-1896

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
1895	18	24	28	34	38	44	48	54	58	64	68	74	620
1896	20	26	30	36	40	46	50	56	60	66	70	76	640

1897-1898

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
1897	22	28	32	38	42	48	52	58	62	68	72	78	660
1898	24	30	34	40	44	50	54	60	64	70	74	80	680

1899-1900

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
1899	26	32	36	42	46	52	56	62	66	72	76	82	700
1900	28	34	38	44	48	54	58	64	68	74	78	84	720



## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Bangabási*, of the 27th October, would like to know what the result of the conquest of the Black Mountain will be. The occupation of so vast a mountainous area will be neither easy nor profitable. The mountaineers, too, will not remain under subjection even if they are conquered a hundred times. They were defeated in 1868, but showed hostility shortly after. And what guarantee is there that they will remain in peaceful subjection if they are now conquered? But there seems to be some mystery about the real object of this Black Mountain Expedition. The revenging of the murder of Battye or of his comrades will not account for its grandeur and magnitude. A large wheel is not set at work for the purpose of breaking a fly. The real object seems to be to occupy the Black Mountain with a view of preventing Russian ingress into India by way of Cashmere after the rebuff which she is certain to receive in the direction of Herat.

BANGABASI,  
Oct. 27th, 1888.

2. The *Dainik and Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 31st October, has learnt from the *Englishman* newspaper that the Sikkim War has already cost a crore and fifty lakhs of rupees—a fact which should enable people to realise what the war will mean if it is allowed to continue. And he must be an enemy of the British Government who will after this even talk of a war with Tibet.

The lesson of the Sikkim War.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Oct. 31st 1888.

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (a)—Police.

3. The *Darussaltanat*, of the 23rd October, asks Government to at once reorganise the Police Department. Police oppression has very greatly increased of late.

The reorganization of the Police Department.

DARUSSALTANAT,  
Oct. 23rd, 1888.

## (d)—Education.

4. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 15th October, disapproves of the arrangements made by Government for the education of the descendants of the late ex-King of Oudh. The writer suggests that they should be sent to the Mahomedan Oriental College, Aligarh, for education.

The education of the descendants of the late ex-King of Oudh.

URDU GUIDE,  
Oct. 15th, 1888.

## (e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

5. The Halisahar correspondent of the *Bangabási*, of the 27th October, says that the condition of the Naihati Municipality is neither good nor bad. The pucca roads in Halisahar are sometimes repaired, but very little attention is paid to the less important roads. The Municipality makes no attempt to widen the narrow lanes, and fails to protect them from encroachments. When a case of encroachment is reported to the Chairman, he visits the locality and promises to take steps against the party who makes the encroachment, but does nothing in the matter. And so cases of encroachment on the public roads are on the increase.

The Naihati Municipality.

BANGABASI,  
Oct. 27th, 1888.

## (g)—Railways and communications including canals and irrigation.

6. The *Som Prakash*, of the 29th October, complains of the miserable condition of the road from the Mugra station on the East Indian Railway to the surrounding villages. During the rainy season the people travelling by this road are subjected to great inconvenience. The local authorities should look to the matter.

The road to the Mugra station on the East Indian Railway.

SOM PRAKASH,  
Oct. : 9th, 1888.



(h)—General.

URDU GUIDE,  
Oct. 23rd, 1888.

7. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 23rd October, says that Government has completely overlooked the claims of the Mahomedans by appointing Dr. Guru Das Banerjee as a Judge of the Calcutta High Court.

The new Native Judgeship in the High Court.

Three Hindus now hold Judgeships in the Calcutta High Court, while not a single Mahomedan has been yet raised to that dignity. This is partiality pure and simple. Government is requested to cancel the appointment of Dr. Guru Das, and to appoint either Mr. Amir Ali or Mahommed Yusuf, who would be an ornament of the bench of the High Court if raised to it.

BANGABASI,  
Oct. 27th, 1888.

8. The *Bangabasi*, of the 27th October, is glad at the appointment of Dr. Guru Das Banerjee as a Judge of the High Court. Dr. Guru Das fully deserves the honour, and neither Hindus nor Mahomedans have therefore any reason to be dissatisfied with his appointment.

Dr. Guru Das Banerjee as a Judge of the High Court.

BANGABASI.

9. The same paper says that the Lieutenant-Governor had promised to punish Mr. Posford for his vagaries in Burrisal. But Mr. Posford has not been up to this time punished. On the contrary, he

Sir Steuart Bayley and Mr. Posford.

was shortly after the High Court's decision transferred from Burrisal, a less healthy, to Tipperah, a more healthy, station, and he has been now made a District Judge of the second grade. Nice punishment this! Surely the Lieutenant-Governor has insulted the High Court by promoting Mr. Posford in this way.

BANGABASI.

10. Referring to the Government Resolution on Mr. Westmacott's report on the working of the outstill system in Hooghly and Howrah, the same paper makes the following observations:—

The outstill system in Hooghly and Howrah.

1. In selecting, in future, sites for the outstills, local opinion should be invariably consulted; and the opinion of the local officers on this point should not be conclusive or allowed much weight. And the distance of an outstill from a town or a market should be more than one furlong.
2. His Honour should consult not only his own officers, but also respectable native gentlemen, in regard to the proposal made by the Indian Association, that liquor should be allowed to be manufactured only outside the inhabited portions of villages, and should be required to be sold at retail shops in selected places.
3. Mr. Westmacott's proposal, accepted by His Honour, that where dealers cannot procure unobjectionable sites for outstills, or are unwilling to sink money in such an undertaking, Government should take up the required land and let it out to licensees, is not a good one. No one should be granted a license who cannot provide the necessary site and house at his own expense. And where no one agrees to accept this condition, there should be no outstill there.
4. The capacity of the fermenting vats should be limited, and Government should see that the abkars do not produce unwholesome liquor by having recourse to quick fermentation. The fears entertained by Mr. Westmacott in this connection will be removed if the capacity of the stills is limited, and the distiller is prevented from distilling liquor more than once a day.



5. Mr. Westmacott's opinion that cheap liquor has not induced its use among classes who previously abstained from it cannot be accepted as correct. The evidence collected by Mr. Westmacott himself is sufficient warrant for this statement.

11. The *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 29th October, says that Government would have acted rightly if it had this time selected a native member of the Subordinate Judicial Service for the vacant Judgeship in the High Court. There can be no doubt, however, that by appointing Dr. Gurn Das Banerjee as a Judge of the High Court, it has appointed a really able and deserving man.

Dr. Gurn Das Banerjee as a Judge of the High Court.

NAVAVIBHAKAR  
SADHARANI,  
Oct. 29th, 1888.

12. The *Som Prakash*, of the 29th October, is exceedingly glad to learn that Dr. Gurn Das Banerjee has been appointed a Judge of the Calcutta High Court in place of Mr. Justice Cunningham.

Dr. Gurn Das Banerjee as a Judge of the Calcutta High Court.

SOM PRAKASH,  
Oct. 29th, 1888.

13. In speaking of the outstill system, the same paper gives tabular statements to show that, within the period from 1863-64 to 1883-84, the revenue derived by Government from the sale of country liquor has nearly trebled. This increase of revenue cannot be wholly due, as some people say, to increased duty on liquor, but must be regarded as proving a substantial increase in the consumption of liquor within recent years. Besides, as the outstillholder is put to no sort of restrictions in regard to the quantity of liquor which he is to distil, the quantity of liquor actually consumed in the country is certainly larger than what is indicated by the excise revenue.

The outstill system.

SOM PRAKASH.

Government should therefore impose restrictions on the producing capacity of the outstills.

The writer anticipates much good from Sir Stuart Bayley's resolution on the working of the outstill system in Howrah and Hooghly.

14. The *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 31st October, says that, now that the grievances of almost all the branches of the Government service in the matter of pay have been removed, it is high time that something was done for the poor Assistant Surgeons. Lord Dufferin will certainly earn the gratitude of the country if he can, in these closing days of his administration, raise the scale of salaries fixed for that neglected class of Government servants.

Assistant Surgeons.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Oct. 31st, 1888.

#### IV.—NATIVE STATES.

15. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 16th October, is sorry to learn from the *Eastern Herald* newspaper that there was a serious affray at Baran within the Holkar's State between the Hindus and the Mahomedans on the occasion of the Mohurram festival. The Hindu Magistrate has arrested only the Mahomedans, and is oppressing them very much. It is hoped that the Resident Sahib will interfere in the matter and save the Mahomedans concerned from further oppression at the hand of the Hindu Magistrate.

Disturbances within the Holkar's state.

URDU GUIDE,  
Oct. 16th, 1888.

16. The same paper, of the 24th October, is glad to hear that Sir Lepel Griffin will not return to India. The Nizam has committed no such sin as can justify the infliction upon him of Sir Lepel Griffin in the character of Resident.

Sir Lepel Griffin.

URDU GUIDE,  
Oct. 24th, 1888.



## V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

MURSHIDABAD  
PRATINIDHI,  
Oct. 26th, 1888.

17. The *Murshidabad Pratinidhi*, of the 26th October, says that the prospect of the *amun* paddy crop in Murshidabad is very bad. There has been no rain from the month of Asvin, and the crops are therefore withering. Reports have been received that the paddy plants in thanas Nalhatti, Ramporehat, and Gokarna have completely withered up for want of rain. It is feared that the selling price of rice will be very high this year.

BANGABASI,  
Oct. 27th, 1888.

18. The *Bangabasi*, of the 27th October, says that the correspondence regarding the Khoordah famine, published in the last *Calcutta Gazette*, shows that there is a decided diminution of distress in the affected area, and that there will be a fair prospect of a permanent improvement in the condition of the poorer classes if the rice crops now ripening prove adequate. This official announcement is certainly of a reassuring character, but it has not nevertheless succeeded in allaying all fears. Mr. Taylor, the Sub-divisional Officer of Khoordah, had stated in a previous report that not even an eight-anna portion of the crops could be expected to be reaped under the most favourable circumstances. It has been since reported that, on the 31st Bhadra last, a storm swept over Khoordah doing considerable damage to the paddy crops. After this report, the apprehensions existing in people's minds regarding the fate of the inhabitants of Khoordah cannot be expected to be easily removed. And it is positively disappointing to the public that no particulars of the damage done to the crops by the late storm have been given in the report published in the last *Calcutta Gazette*. It is hoped that the Lieutenant-Governor and the Orissa officials will publish the particulars in the next issue of the *Gazette*.

BANGABASI.

19. The same paper considers it very strange that the district officers who have reported on the recent floods in the districts of Burdwan, Nuddea, Midnapore, and the 24-Pergunnahs have all taken a rose-coloured view of the visitation. They have all harped in Sir Rivers Thompson's well-known strain that these floods will, by increasing the fertility of the soil, produce more good than evil. In Burdwan, Mr. Oldham has found no distress in the flooded tracts, and he is delighted at the prospect of those tracts being sooner or later deserted by those that inhabit them for employment in the tea-gardens of Assam. And Mr. Vowell of Midnapore is hardhearted enough to propose that the poor in the Contai sub-division, whose houses have been washed away, should receive no help for the purpose of rebuilding them, and that it would be good luck for them if the loss of their houses should compel them to emigrate to parts of the country more favourably situated. Perhaps Mr. Vowell is connected with tea-gardens or coolie depôts, and would be therefore glad to find the houseless poor of his district take bodily to working as coolies. Like Mr. Oldham, Mr. Vowell too has found no distress in the flooded tracts in Midnapore. On the contrary, he has found in those tracts plenty of food, well-fed men and children sleeker and better nourished than such children ordinarily are. And he has not therefore supported the proposal of the Sub-divisional Officer of Contai to spend Rs. 18,000 a month on gratuitous relief among the sufferers by the flood in that sub-division.

From the Cutwa sub-division of the Burdwan district comes the official report that the floods there will ultimately do more good than evil.

There has been distress from floods in the 24-Pergunnahs, which led some Roman Catholic priests in that district to ask Government for relief. But Mr. Bolton, the Magistrate, who was asked to make enquiries, has found nothing but happiness in his district, and Mr. Smith, the Presidency Commissioner, has endorsed Mr. Bolton's view of the matter.



It seems that it is with the view of avoiding expenditure of public money that the officers of Government make light of such distress as has been occasioned by the late floods, and draw up rose-coloured reports of really devastating visitations. And there can be no doubt that official reports of such visitations would have been framed in a very different cue and would have told very different tales if the duty of affording relief in such cases had rested with the public generally, or with the zemindars under the Permanent Settlement. Everybody knows, however, that the Government of Bengal is handcuffed in the matter of expenditure of money. Everybody knows that of the 20 crores of rupees contributed by Bengal to the public exchequer, 11 crores are taken by the Government of India. And everybody therefore knows that the Government of Bengal has very little to spare for relieving distress among the people. The best course for the Government of Bengal, whenever such distress prevails, will therefore be not to make light thereof or publish rose-coloured reports in regard thereto, as is now done from its inability to render the required pecuniary help, but to proclaim honestly and in a straightforward spirit the full extent of such distress, and to exhort the public to assist it with money for the purpose of coping with the calamity.

20. A correspondent of the same paper says that paddy plants are withering for want of rain at Dumdama, a village in the Sonthal Pergunnahs, and the withered stalks of paddy are being used as fodder for cattle. In some places the fields are being irrigated with water from the tanks, thus causing grave apprehensions of scarcity of drinking water in the hot season. The people are in a state of great uneasiness.

BANGABATI,  
Oct. 27th, 1888.

21. Another correspondent of the same paper says that paddy plants are withering for want of rain at Sainthia, a village in the Beerbhoom district. In view of the expected failure of the crops, the mahajans are not selling their stored paddy. The people are wailing in distress. The rice, which sold at 30 seers per rupee in the month of Asvin, is now selling at two rupees per maund. And rice is not always to be had in the market.

BANGABATI.

22. Another correspondent of the same paper says that the *amun* paddy plants are withering for want of rain at Dainhat-Nalhati in the district of Burdwan. The rice, which sold at Rs. 2 per maund in Asin last, is now selling at Rs. 2-10 per maund. The people are therefore in great distress.

BANGABATI.

23. A correspondent of the same paper says that the inhabitants of Matari, a village near Krishnagunge in Nuddea, have to suffer sorely on account of the drying up of the *beel* near that village in summer. Many diseases break out among them in consequence of the use of impure drinking water. There is no good road in the village, and the whole village is overgrown with dense jungle in which dwell tigers and other wild animals, who have made the lives of men and cattle extremely insecure.

BANGABATI.

#### VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

24. According to the *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 26th October, envy is a predominant trait in the English character. Whatever their other qualities may be, Englishmen are certainly a most envious people in the face of the earth. So long as a man is in a lowly plight, so long he is an object of sympathy with them. But directly a man shows any

PRAJA BANDHU  
Oct. 26th, 1888.

The Anglo-Indian opposition to the Congress.



sign of an improved situation, he becomes their eye-sore. This is true not only of the Englishmen who reside in India, but of the English people generally. Look at Englishmen's treatment of Irishmen. Because the Irish have made themselves their rivals, they are envying them and are endeavouring to put them down. So in India, because the Bengalis have commenced competing with them in almost all matters, they have therefore become the eye-sore of the Anglo-Indians. The present Anglo-Indian opposition to the Congress movement is due solely to the fact of that movement having Bengalis for its foremost supporters. But in thus opposing the Congress movement, the Anglo-Indians are simply doing injury to themselves. The Congress has, by the trumpet blast of its triumph, sent a thrill of fear into the hearts of its enemies. And so one of the tactics which its enemies have adopted with a view of putting it down is the creation of disunion between Hindus and Mahomedans by treating the former with disfavour and the latter with undue indulgence. But the Mahomedans will have to repent of their folly if they allow themselves to be deceived by favours temporarily shewn to them by their English masters. The Anglo-Indians should also bear in mind that they are simply courting their own danger by opposing the Congress. They should know that a great sacrifice (*Yajna*) undertaken in the name of the gods can suffer no harm from molestation caused by the demons.

PRAJA BANDHU,  
Oct. 26th, 1888.

25. The same paper says that during the Durga Puja vacation the editor had an interview with a friend at Darjeeling who informed him that the official report of the English loss in the recent encounter with the Tibetans was not correct, inasmuch as he had himself seen 40 to 50 wounded English soldiers in the Darjeeling hospital. Thus the recent brush with the Tibetans seems to have been a more serious affair than Government would let people think.

NAVAVIBHAKAR  
SADHARANI,  
Oct. 29th, 1888.

26. The *Navavibhakar Sadharoni*, of the 29th October, says that the Congress is, as it were, the "essence" of the political associations existing in different parts of the country, and it is a matter of regret that these associations have become rather inactive since the commencement of the Congress movement. Up to this time the Congress has only talked and done no real work. It was, however, hoped that the Provincial Conferences would do some real work. But it is disappointing to find that the Provincial Conference held at Calcutta has only talked. It is quite within the power of these Provincial Conferences to do very real and very good work. Self-Government, for instance, has not yet been extended to all parts of the province; municipalities exist only in towns; and although there are the District and Local Boards, they are as inert and inactive as the old Education and Road Cess Committees. The Calcutta Provincial Conference has thanked Sir Steuart Bayley for his circular forbidding too many official members in municipalities. But it could have gone further and requested His Honour to place more money in the hands of the Boards, which cannot now do much work for want of funds. It is also necessary to the full development and satisfactory working of the Boards that they should be supplemented by village punchayets or union committees all over the country. And surely the Congress or the Provincial Conferences ought to see that this is done. Then there is the outstill question in connection with which the Congress and the Conferences can do real good work by inducing the Hindu and the Mahomedan society to declare themselves strongly and emphatically against drinking and drinkers. It is therefore a pity that the Congress and the Provincial Conferences are only talking and doing no real work.



27. The same paper gives the following account of a political play recently acted on the stage of the *Vina Theatre* in Calcutta in the presence of the Bengal delegates to the Congress :—

A political drama on the Calcutta stage.

NAVATIBHAKAR  
SADHARANI,  
Oct. 29th, 1888.

The opening scene shows a number of Indians belonging to different communities, who, thanks to the cheap liquor provided by the English Government, are holding high revel in a hotel, thereby drowning all their sorrows in wine cups. At this stage, a begging minstrel makes his appearance, and is mercilessly rebuked and abused for his impertinence in begging alms of such august personages. The minstrel next sings four songs, which should open their eyes to the real nature of their situation, convince them of the falsity of the principles into which they have been initiated, and tell them that they must have little cause for vaunting or self-glorification. But the songs fail of their purpose with the "Baboos" in their uproarious state. Two Englishmen now come upon the scene, and expatiate upon the blessings conferred upon the Baboos by cheap liquor, and are applauded and thanked for so doing. The two Englishmen next call for wine and make the Baboos drink it. And then when the Baboos become almost senseless, one of the Englishmen asks them whether they would like to be independent, and they all reply in the affirmative. Thereupon he tells them that if they would be independent, they all—Hindus, Mussulmans, Parsis, &c.—must part each other's company. This advice commends itself to them all, and they at once part company and quarrel with one another and become all the weaker for so doing. At this moment *Bhārat Mātā* (the guardian goddess of India) appears in a homely guise and shows them the real pitiableness of her condition. Thereupon they all unite again and establish an association for bettering their condition. Many Englishmen, really friendly to natives, join this association. The Englishman who had counselled disunion again makes his appearance and endeavours to separate Hindus from Mussulmans. By means of inducements he succeeds in detaching some Mussulmans from the movement, and employs them to persuade other Mussulmans to follow their example. But he achieves scant success herein.

A play of this kind is calculated to do much good.

28. The same paper refers to the letters, alleged to be written by Punjabis, which are now appearing in the *Civil and Military Gazette*, objecting to the proposed appointment of Baboo Pratul Chandra

A Bengali Judge in the Punjab High Court.

Chatterjea as a Judge of the Punjab Chief Court, and says that there are reasons to doubt the fact of these letters being written by Punjabis. It is a suspicious circumstance that these letters are appearing only in the *Civil and Military Gazette*. It is not at all likely that the Punjabis will be dissatisfied if a Bengali is made a Judge of their Chief Court. For they know that the Bengalis were exceedingly delighted with the appointment of Shambhu Nath Pandit, who was not a Bengali but a North-West man, as a Judge of the Calcutta High Court.

NAVATIBHAKAR  
SADHARANI.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

*Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 3rd November 1888.



